

## Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee January 26, 2009 Cardiac Transplant Coverage in Medicaid Barbara Langner, PhD

## **Current Coverage of Heart Transplants in Kansas Medicaid:**

Heart transplants have been covered in Kansas Medicaid in some form as far back as July, 1989. The most recent policy changes are that currently Kansas Medicaid covers heart transplants for children only. Kansas Medicaid does not currently cover heart transplants for adults as of October 6, 2000.

## **Background:**

The Kansas Medicaid *Inpatient Provider Manual* related to this policy states:

Heart, lung, and heart/lung transplants performed in approved in-state or border city hospitals are covered for KAN Be Healthy participants only (KAN Be Healthy refers to Kansas Medicaid for children through the Early & Periodic Screening & Diagnostic Treatment Benefit).

Heart transplants will be allowed at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri or Via Christi (St. Francis Campus) in Wichita, Kansas, or at a hospital recommended by either of these facilities.

This policy (Policy B2000-036) with the effective dates of service of October 6, 2000, mandated that Heart, Lung, and Heart and Lung transplants will require current KAN Be Healthy (KBH) status. Non-KBH beneficiaries approved for Heart, Lung, and Heart and Lung Transplants prior to October 6, 2000 will remain covered. The prior policy (Policy B98068) was the preceding policy that covered heart transplants for adults. It was effective from February 1, 1999 until the implementation of B2000-036 which limited coverage to KBH participants only.

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